



STANLEY PARK TRAIN

Update

Regular Park Board Meeting
Monday, June 10, 2024



To provide an update on the status of the Stanley Park Train operations and the ongoing recommissioning effort

- Stanley Park Train has been operating at its present site since 1964
- The Train is an affordable, family-friendly attraction through the spring and summer months
- Best known for hosting popular seasonal events such as Easter Train, Ghost Train and Bright Nights Train



Stanley Park Train – Background

- Stanley Park Train has been operating at its present site since 1964
- The Train is an affordable, family-friendly attraction through the spring and summer months
- Best known for hosting popular seasonal events such as Easter Train, Ghost Train and Bright Nights Train



Stanley Park Train – Operational Disruptions

- Closed March 2020 – May 2021 due to COVID-19
- Ghost Train 2021 cancelled due to coyote management in Stanley Park
- Service resumed with Bright Nights 2021 until closure in September 2022 due to Technical Safety BC mandated suspension of operating permit
- Considerable financial and community impacts with cancellation of highly anticipated Q4 events



Stanley Park Train – Maintenance Challenges

- Aging components of ride system require more frequent and comprehensive service
- Few workers with knowledge and expertise with the equipment
- Limited support from original equipment manufacturer (OEM)
- Changes to regulatory standards over time



Stanley Park Train – Recommissioning Planning

- Recommissioning efforts began with a conditional assessment of the Train
- Recommendations for a phased recommissioning effort focused on safety-critical systems and returning the Train to operations
- 3 of the original 13 carriages were decommissioned, including both accessible carriages
- Unplanned repair costs were met with funding solutions from the philanthropic community



Stanley Park Train – Phase 1: 2023 Recommissioning



- Recommissioning work prioritized return to service for 2023 Bright Nights
- Repair work conducted by COV Engineering resources
- One locomotive and five carriages were successfully refurbished for Bright Nights
- Train welcomed approximately 38,000 passengers over 36 evenings



- Second locomotive and sixth carriage with accessible ramp added in time for Easter 2024
- Event was sold out with approximately 5,700 tickets sold in 30 minutes
- After-hours incident led to a one-day closure for track repairs
- Train was returned to service for the last two days of the event



Stanley Park Train – Phase 2: 2024 Recommissioning

- Some units were deferred to Phase 2
- Remediation of structural deficiencies will require external resourcing
- Prioritizing accessibility with fully-engineered carriage design and build



- Train is currently operating on weekends, shifting to Wednesday – Sunday operations in July / August
- Ghost Train and Bright Nights scheduled for Q4
- Anticipate train capacity will exceed 2023 levels, but remain below historical capacity



2024 Operating Schedule



	Before Going Offline	Recommissioning Phase 1 (Actuals)		Recommissioning Phase 2 (Estimated)	
	Historical Capacity (Ghost Train & Bright Nights)	2023 Bright Nights	2024 Easter Train	2024 Ghost Train (Oct 2024)	2024 Bright Nights (Dec 2024)
Locomotives	4	1	2	2	3
Carriages	13	5	6	8	10
Accessible Carriages	2	0	1 (partially accessible)	2 (1 fully, 1 partially)	2 (1 fully, 1 partially)

Stanley Park Train – Phase 3: Life-Cycle Asset Management

- Full risk assessment of ride system to identify gaps and develop solutions
- Repair of components requires custom work that increases attraction downtime
- Potential failure of 60-year-old engines remains an operational risk
- Renewal/replacement of power train should be part of Train's sustainment plan
- Electrification of engine will require additional funding



Financial Impacts

- Lower capacity will limit revenue generation opportunities
- Operating costs increasing due to safety-focused process improvements and new data collection requirements to monitor weather-related impacts to the track
- Track maintenance costs increasing due to shorter lifespan of new materials
- Higher maintenance costs budgeted to account for likely track and train repairs
- Costs are estimated to be over budget 2024



- Stanley Park Water Supply Project will pose operational risks
 - Project work expected to begin in Q4 2024
 - Loss of parking and traffic impacts on Pipeline Road are expected
 - Mitigation plans to be developed
- Aging facilities will require significant investment to replace or upgrade



